

**From:** NCEH/ATSDR News Clips (CDC)  
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## NCEH/ATSDR News Clips for Thursday, August 13, 2015

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### Summary



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#### **1. New Mexico, Colorado Delegations Urge President To Direct Federal Resources To Gold King Mine Spill ATSDR Named** **KRWG News -- 8/12/2015 Las Cruces, NM**

First and foremost, we need your help to mobilize adequate and coordinated resources across the federal, state, tribal, and local agencies involved in the emergency response and disaster management. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the primary federal agency involved, but given the complexity and size of this disaster, we expect other federal agencies including the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior, and Department of Health and Human Services may be involved.

#### **2. EPA test results show mine spill unleashed highly toxic stew** **Chicago Tribune -- 8/13/2015 Chicago, IL**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday that surface-water testing revealed very high levels of lead, arsenic, cadmium and other heavy metals as a sickly-yellow plume of mine waste flowed through Colorado.

#### **3. After Colorado Waste Spill, E.P.A. Halts Field Investigations**

**New York Times -- 8/12/2015 New York, NY**

the agency's top official said Wednesday that she had halted all similar investigations until further notice. ...“It is just an opportunity for us to screen, to make sure that there is no potential for a release like this in another situation,” said Gina McCarthy

**4. EPA chief says polluted Animas River 'seems to be restoring itself'  
Los Angeles Times -- 8/12/2015 Los Angeles, CA**

"I visited the river and took a look at it myself, and the good news is that it seems to be restoring itself," she said. "We're hoping for a return to some sense of normalcy for the use of this river, but the EPA is letting science be its guide."

**5. By the numbers: The massive toll of the Animas River spill  
CNN -- 8/13/2015 Atlanta, GA**

3 million ...The number of gallons of heavy metal filled wastewater the U.S. Geological Survey says spilled into the Animas River. That's about 60,000 bathtubs full.

**6. How Dick Cheney Kicked off an Era of Cancer Clusters and Eco-Disasters from Fracking  
AlterNet -- 8/13/2015 San Francisco, CA**

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, which holds the Halliburton Loophole, exempts oil and gas firms from environmental protection laws.

**7. Officials urge study of compressors, pipelines  
Daily Star, The -- 8/13/2015 Oneonta, NY**

...local officials have joined a prominent physicians' group in urging state leaders to conduct the same type of study that led the Cuomo administration to ban hydraulic fracturing.

**8. Ancient Chinese graffiti warns of droughts ahead  
Climate News Network -- 8/13/2015 Internet**

Cave inscriptions stretching back five centuries record the impact of disastrous droughts in central China – and help scientists predict that another is due before 2040.

**9. Judge denies DuPont testimony, expert motions  
West Virginia Record, The -- 8/12/2015 Charleston, WV**

A federal judge, for the most part, denied motions by DuPont asking the court to exclude certain testimony and experts in an ongoing mass tort against the chemical company by Mid-Ohio Valley residents who were exposed to C8 in their drinking water.

**10. Italy's ban on neonicotinoids effective, U of Guelph conference told**  
**Guelph Mercury -- 8/13/2015 Ontario, Canada**

"After the ban there has been strong improvement," Mutinelli said. "The effect of the ban was immediate." He said corn producers were worried about losing crop yield to disease, "but that didn't happen," he said. "The ban has been now seven years and crop yield is within the expected range."

**11. The Teflon Toxin DuPont and the Chemistry of Deception**  
**Intercept, The -- 8/11/2015 New York, NY**

In some ways, C8 already is the tobacco of the chemical industry — a substance whose health effects were the subject of a decades-long corporate cover-up. ...This story is based on many...documents, which until they were entered into evidence for these trials had been hidden away in DuPont's files.

**12. 'They figured our neighborhood is black, so they'll do it'**  
**Center For Public Integrity -- 8/12/2015 Washington DC**

Residents of Southside Syracuse put up a fierce, well-organized fight to stop construction of a sewage plant and still lost

**13. What the Gold Mine Disaster Tells Us Editorial**  
**New York Times -- 8/13/2015 New York, NY**

The General Mining Law...is a destructive relic now. ...allows mining companies to buy federal land for a few dollars an acre, demands no royalties and requires minimal environmental protections while the mine is operating and no cleanup afterward.

**14. EPA SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY POLICY STUCK IN UTERO**  
**Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility -- 8/12/2015 Washington, DC**

Despite pledging a "culture of scientific integrity," the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's official Scientific Integrity Policy remains largely unfinished more than three years after its launch.

**15. Vogtle: at \$65 billion and counting, it's a case study of nuclear power's staggeringly awful economics**  
**GreenWorld -- 8/2/2015 Takoma Park, MD**

Georgia is one state that you would think would be wary of nuclear power economics. The first two reactors at Georgia Power's Vogtle site, which came online in the late 1980s, were a record 800% over budget.

**16. Rising seawater temperatures force Pilgrim to reduce power**

**Cape Cod Times -- 8/11/2015 Hyannis, MA**

It was only the second summer in the nuclear plant's 43-year history that the temperature of the water used to cool the reactor exceeded the federal limit.

**17. What The Sugar Industry Doesn't Want You to Know  
Food Manufacturing -- 8/12/2015 Madison, WI**

How much sugar should you eat? The FDA wants to tell you, but the sugar industry has spent \$168 million fighting measures like this since 2009.

**18. Did The EPA Intentionally Poison Animas River To Secure SuperFund Money?  
Zero Hedge -- 8/12/2015 New York, NY Internet**

A week before The EPA disastrously leaked millions of gallons of toxic waste into The Animas River in Colorado, this letter to the editor was published in The Silverton Standard & The Miner local newspaper, authored by a retired geologist detailing verbatim, how EPA would foul the Animas River on purpose in order to secure superfund money...

**19. Saturated fats in meat and dairy not as bad for health as previously thought, study finds  
Independent, The -- 8/12/2015 London, UK**

A major study into the health implications of dietary fats has failed to find a link between food containing saturated fats, such as eggs, chocolate and cream, and an increased risk of dying from heart disease, stroke or type-2 diabetes.

**20. Illinois parents refusing vaccines for kids need doctor's signature  
FOX News Network -- 8/13/2015 New York, NY**

A bill signed into law this month requires parents of children entering kindergarten and grades six and nine to provide a Certificates of Religious Exemption with a health care provider's signature if they opt out of vaccine requirements.

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